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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILOLOGY

VOL. XXXI, 3.

WHOLE No. 123.

I.—LATIN INSCRIPTIONS AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

V¹.

38. In the year 1908 one of the Trustees of the Johns Hopkins University, at that time resident in Madrid, purchased an inscribed metal tablet from a Spanish dealer in antiquities and presented it to the University Museum. The tablet, which measures 0,257 m. in width and 0,132 in height, contains the following inscription in the *scriptura actuaria*:

VE PVBLICE VACATIO · SACRO · SANCTIVS ESTO VT I · PON
TIFICI · ROMANO · EST ERIT EAQVE MILITARIA · EI · OMNI
A · MERITA SVNT DE AVSPICIIS QVAEQVE AD EAS RES PER
TINEBUNT AVGV RV M IVRIS · DICTIO · IYDICATIONE ESTO EIS
QVE PONTIFICIB · AVGV RIBVSQVE LVDIS QVOT PVBLICE MA
GISTRATVS FACIENT · ET CVM · EI PONTIFIC AVGVRES · SA
CRA PVBLICA · C · G · I · FACIENT · TOGAS PRAETEXTAS HABEN
DI IVS POTESTASQ ESTO EISQVE · PONTIFICIB AVGV RIB ·
Q LV DOS GLADIATO RESQ INTER DECVRIONES SPECTA
RE IVS · POTESTASQVE ESTO

This will be at once recognized as a part of the famous *Lex Ursonensis* which was given by Julius Caesar to the new colony of Urso in Spain, the so-called Colonia Genetiva Iulia Urban-

¹ The preceding articles of this series appeared in this Journal, xxviii, 1907, pp. 450 ff., xxx, 1909, pp. 61 ff. 153 ff. and xxxi, 1910, pp. 25 ff.

orum, in 44 B. C. The text of this municipal law, so far as it is preserved, is engraved on four great bronze tablets now in the Museum at Madrid and is found in C. I. L., II, 5439 and Bruns, *Fontes Iuris Romani Antiqui*⁷, pp. 123 ff. The particular section here in question, the top of the last column of the first tablet, is also published separately as II, 5439 a, on the basis of a small tablet which E. Huebner, the editor of that volume, accepted as part of a genuine ancient duplicate, adding the comment, "non videtur dubitari posse, quin alio quoque loco atque Ursone exemplum legis quondam extiterit alterum". In publishing this duplicate he made it quite clear that he had never seen the original, but knew the inscription only from a photograph. This had



The Baltimore Tablet (C. I. L., II, 5439, a). Photographed by Schaefer, Baltimore.

been sent to him by a Spaniard named Celestino Brañanova of Oviedo, who bought the tablet in September, 1880, from one Goënaga, a dealer in antiquities at Burgos. That the tablet now in our collection is the same as that which came into the possession of Brañanova in 1880, is proved not only by the exact correspondence in text, size and other features, but also by the inscription in ink on the back of the thin piece of wood to which the metal is attached: "Adquirido en 1880 por C. B. Oviedo". After a careful examination of the tablet from every point of view, I feel quite sure that if Huebner had seen the inscription itself, he would at once have branded it as a modern copy, though a very accurate and skillfully made copy of a section of the genuine Madrid tablet. I shall therefore attempt to show why this record, which since 1892 has been accepted by almost all

scholars as one of a good ancient company, must henceforth be cast into the epigraphical outer darkness where every inscription bears the stigma of the asterisk.

The first point which counts against the genuineness and antiquity of the tablet is the fact that it has no assured history previous to September, 1880, when Celestino Brañanova bought it from Goënaga in Burgos. It is true that Goënaga said that he had obtained it a short time before in a village (unnamed) of the province of Palencia (far north of Urso) where it was hanging on a wall of the sacristy in the parish church. But this sounds very like the tale of an antiquity dealer, who either does not



A Part of the *Lex Ursonensis* (C. I. L., II, 5439). Photographed by Hauser y Menet, Madrid.

know or intentionally conceals the origin of the object which he desires to sell. On the other hand the real *Lex Ursonensis* was traced positively to the spot where it was discovered (C. I. L., II, p. 852).

In the second place the date of its first appearance is in itself enough to arouse suspicion. When the first of the important Roman bronzes of Spain, the *Lex Malacitana* and *Lex Salpensana*, were found near Malaga in October, 1851, their value was so little understood that the discoverers actually sold them by weight as old metal. Even twenty years later when the first two tablets of the *Lex Ursonensis* came to light near Osuna (1870-1) they aroused no great interest: they were bought, however, first by a citizen of Seville and after about a year by George Loring, who already possessed the Malaga and Salpensa tablets. But

in 1873 when the other two tablets of the *Lex Ursonensis* were offered to Loring, the price demanded was so exorbitant that he refused to pay it and compelled the finders to turn elsewhere. By this time they had gathered some idea of the real value of such inscriptions and, with the hope of securing larger prices elsewhere, offered the bronzes for sale in Paris and Berlin. The Berlin Museum was actually on the point of paying the money when Antonio Delgado, acting as special commissioner under the orders of the King of Spain, after much difficulty secured the prize for the Madrid Museum. This was in 1875. Only a year later growing interest was further quickened by the discovery of the *Lex Vipascensis*. Now, the fact that our tablet first appeared in September, 1880, following close upon the time of great enthusiasm and high prices, considered in connection with the absence of any clear account of its origin, militates strongly against its acceptance as a genuine ancient document.

Further than this, the Baltimore tablet is not even a genuine piece of ancient bronze, but is of copper and much thinner than the other tablets of the *Lex Ursonensis* and similar bronzes in Madrid, Rome and Naples: in fact, the letters actually stand out in relief on the back. When studied in detail, line by line and letter by letter, the text is seen to be an almost exact reproduction of a part of the genuine *Lex Ursonensis*. Even some scratches on the surface of the bronze are reproduced. The most striking difference between the original and the copy is the presence in the latter of a large number of small points of metal which stand in the grooves of almost all the letters. This circumstance led me to suspect that the small tablet was nothing but a reproduction made by some modern process—a suspicion which was at once confirmed when I consulted one of my colleagues, an expert in applied electricity.¹ The forger simply made an impression of the original in wax or some similar substance and by an electrolytic process produced the thin deposit of copper which for thirty years has passed as a genuine record of antiquity. It is therefore perfectly clear that this inscription, a modern copy made in 1880 or a little earlier, has no right to the place it occupies in the Corpus of Latin Inscriptions.

¹ I am aware, of course, that W. Froehner denied the genuineness of C. I. L. II, 5439, a,—on what grounds I do not know. Cf. Eph. Epig., viii, p. 527.

39. Since the publication of the military inscriptions (A. J. P., xxx, 159ff.) a large fragment of a *laterculus militum* has been added to this collection. In its greatest dimensions it measures 0,57 m. wide and 0,48 high and preserves the original straight edge for 0,28 m. on the left side and 0,25 at the top. Above the first line is a margin of 0,035 m. The line of the fracture at the bottom on the left fits exactly the top of a slab which is now in the Museum of the Conservatori on the Capitoline Hill and is described in C. I. L., VI, 32523, b. The text together with the necessary supplements taken from the other stone is as follows:

	M AVRE L	M F POL	BI	
	M AVRE L	M F QVI	DAS	
	C IVLIVS	C F AVG	VALE	
	M AVRE L	M F FL	BATIO RVS	
5	C VALERIVS	C F QVI	LONGINIAN	S
	M VLP IV	S M F AEL	VICTO R	M V
	M AVRELIVS	M F HAB	LYSIA S	GERMAN
	M AVRE L	M F CAES	FALADVS	GERM
	M AVRE L	M F SERG	NASIA BV S	BER COR TI
10	7 VINICI ANNIANI			
	T FLAVIVS	T F VLP	FIRMINVS	SCVP COMMODO
	M AVRE L	M F VLP	VALE RIN V	POET C · D
	M AVRE L	M F CL	AMABILIS	AGVNT
	T AELIVS	T F VLP	MAXIMVS	SCVP SCR
15	M AVRE L	M F VLP	MACEDONIAN	PAVT
	M AVRE L	M F VLP	MAVRV S	PAVT
	M AVRE L	M F ANI	ZOTICV S	PISTO
	M AVRE L	M F CL	AQVIL A	PESSIN
	M AVRE L	M F VLP	GEMELLIN	PAVT

According to the story of the Roman owner of this inscription, it was found in the Campagna, but it seems far more probable that like the slab to which it belongs and like others of the same character it was discovered in the vicinity of the Praetorian Camp, not far from the junction of the via Goito and via Montebello where some excavations have recently taken place. This new text has already been printed by Dr. E. Ghislanzoni in

Notizie d. Scav., 1909, p. 81,¹ but as his copy, probably made in haste in a gloomy Roman shop, shows some inaccuracies, a few brief comments seem to be necessary.

Line 1. The last letter may be either I or L, for these letters, even when completely preserved, are very difficult to distinguish on this stone on account of the shortness of the base of L. Here, however, the right side of the letter at the base is lost in the fracture.

L. 2. The fourth letter of the cognomen is certainly A and the name is probably Dasas already known from other inscriptions, e. g., XIII, 7508, Bato Dasantis fil.

L. 4. According to Dr. Ghislanzoni the cognomen is Batidrus, whereas the stone seems to have Batiorus: still on account of the occasional similarity of D and O this may not be regarded as certain. Only in lines two and eleven is D so well made as to be beyond question; in line fifteen, however, D and O standing side by side are both rounded alike.

L. 5. After LONGINIAN the lower half of an S, overlooked by Dr. Ghislanzoni, is distinctly visible exactly in the perpendicular line of the initial letters of the local names. The town is therefore probably Scupi which, like other colonies² established by Vespasian or his sons, belonged to the *tribus Quirina*; cf. e. g., VI, 32640, l. 22, Valer(ius) C. f. Qui. Longinus Scup(is).³ The title Colonia Flavia Scupi in VI, 3205 bears witness to its establishment by one of the Flavian family and Colonia Aelia Scupi in VI, 533 seems to show that it was reorganized in some way by Hadrian or Antoninus Pius. The cognomen Ulpia seen in lines eleven and fourteen of this inscription suggests the probability that new colonists were introduced by Trajan as well.

L. 6. Both strokes of the lower part of R are seen below the fracture. The place is therefore doubtless Mursa in Pannonia, which usually appears as Colonia Aelia Mursa⁴, though Flavia Mursa does occur.⁵

L. 7. HAB in the tribal column is probably, as Dr. Ghislanzoni suggests, a graver's error for FAB, though I can scarcely

¹ It is given also by Cagnat in Rev. Arch., 1909, p. 511 (= L'ann. épig.), no. 210.

² Mommsen, Eph. Epig., III, p. 233.

³ Kubitschek, Imper. Rom. trib. descr., p. 238.

⁴ VI, 32640, ll. 29 and 43.

⁵ VI, 32624, l. 8.

agree with him that this mistake may have been due to the presence of HAB in the local column twenty-one lines below. At all events, if FAB is the correct reading, it gives at last the tribe of Germanicia,¹ which hitherto has appeared only as Caesarea Germanicia, e. g., l. 8 below and VI, 32624, c, l. 4 and d, l. 10. To which of the emperors it owed its title, it is impossible to say: perhaps to Augustus, who by virtue of his adoption belonged to the Fabian tribe,² though few of the Julian colonies outside of Italy were enrolled in this tribe.³ The Colonia Iulia Augusta Felix Berytus in Phoenicia, however, belonged to the *tribus Fabia* as is shown, e. g., by III, 169, 173; VIII, 4098; XII, 3072.

L. 8. The cognomen is read by Dr. Ghislanzoni as FALADVS, but on account of the similarity in form of D and O, above mentioned, as well as of E and F, it might equally well be read EALAOVS or FALAOVS. All things considered, the form FALADVS seems as likely to be correct as any other.

L. 9. If BER stands for Beryto, SERG is striking because, as pointed out above, Berytus belonged to the Fabian tribe. Cases are not unknown, however, where the tribal designation seems to belong to the individual rather than to his native town. For example in III, 1738, C. Egnatio C. f. Serg(ia) Marcello is written where *tribus Tromentina* would naturally be expected (Epidaurus) and in III, 6687, Q. Aemilius Q. f. Secundus, though a native of Berytus, is assigned to the *tribus Palatina*. Compare Mommsen's note on this point. The cognomen in this line, though read by Dr. Ghislanzoni as NASTABVS, should undoubtedly be read NASIABVS; for the cross-bar of T on this stone is always long enough to prevent confusion with I. The name Nasiabius, too, occurs in V, 4861.

At the end of this line is COR · T which belongs to the second column. After the T the base of a perpendicular stroke is clearly visible, apparently part of an R. The abbreviation doubtless stands for *cornicularius tribuni*.

¹ Unless it refers only to the tribe of the individual: see below on l. 9.

² Suet. 40.

³ Mommsen, Eph. Epig., III, p. 232.

L. 11. In VLP the loop of P was left uncut. On the Colonia Ulpia Scupi here and in line fourteen see remarks above on line 5.

For the second column the reading, supplied by the other slab (VI, 32523, b), is *Commodo iii et Victorino cos.* The date is therefore 183 A. D.

L. 12. In the second column after C · there remains the top of the next letter which was probably D.

L. 14. In the second column the letter following SCR is possibly I or may just as well be V, which is regularly made on this stone with strokes perpendicular at the top and rounded at the bottom with a broad curve. In the former case we should understand the word as *scriba* and recall VI, 999 in which *scribae armamentari* make a dedication to Antoninus Pius in 138 A. D. If V be correct, *scrut(ator)*, an inspector, might be suggested as a possibility. This word occurs in III, 14357, 27 with reference to customs inspection and is discussed by W. Gurlitt in *Jahreshefte d. oest. arch. Inst.*, Beiblatt, II, 1899, 97.

L. 17. Pistoriae belonged to the *tribus Velina*:¹ hence ANI (*ensi*), like *Sergia* in line 9, must be explained as personal. In the case of freedmen especially this occasional discrepancy between the tribe of the individual and that of his native place is not difficult to understand.

L. 18. Pessinus belonged to the *tribus Velina*,² so that here again *Claudia* must be the tribe of the individual soldier. Cf. W. Kubitschek, *Wiener Stud.*, 1894, pp. 329 ff.

L. 19. The whole of P is preserved and parts of N preceding and AV following, but not the least trace of the T reported by Dr. Ghislanzoni. Of course Pautalia, which is usually abbreviated PAVT or PAVTA, is the place in question.

40. Small bronze tablet (*ansata*) from Rome, 0,21 m. wide and 0,125 high. At the left side is an upright palm branch and at the right a wreath. On the back of the tablet at the centre is a rough lump of lead with traces of iron rust. This of course held the nail by which the bronze was attached, probably to the foot of a bust or statue.³ Enclosed by a molded border

¹ C. I. L., XI, p. 298.

² C. I. L., III, 1818, 2710.

³ Compare the similar inscriptions on herms from Pompeii, e. g., that of Caecilius Iucundus now at Naples.

is the following inscription in letters of silver inset (*litterae incrustatae*):

GENIO
C GERVLONI
palma IANVARI *corona*
FORTVNATVS DECVR
GERVLORVM · SER

This inscription was published in C. I. L., VI, 30882 from an inaccurate copy made by Helbig,¹ who reported CERVIORVM · SER as the reading of the last line. But the tablet clearly and unquestionably has GERVLORVM with G in the form G which is so common in the latter part of the second century.² Exactly the same kind of G with long inward curve rising to the middle of the letter is seen in the first and second lines whereas the final curve of C in the second and fourth lines scarcely rises above the lower level of the letters. The L also is clear, though here as in the rest of this inscription the horizontal strokes are finer than the perpendicular. The silver has partially disappeared from the wreath as well as from a few letters, but for the most part is perfectly preserved.

C. Gerulonius Ianuarius, as his name indicates, was a freed-man of the *collegium gerulorum* or, at least, his nomen was derived from that source. The name occurs also in VI, 19038, L. Gerulonius Phurus and ib. 19039, Gerulonia Maria. Other names of similar origin are V, 4422, Fabricius Centonius collegiorum lib(ertus) and VI, 27414, Tignuaria Victorina. Our Fortunatus decur(ialium) gerulorum ser(vus) is doubtless, as Dessau suggests, the same as Fortunatus decurialium gerulorum dispensator in VI, 360, who made a dedication to Iuno Lucina in the year 166 A. D. Most of the inscriptions of the *geruli* are collected in De Ruggiero, Diz. Epig., III, p. 524.

41. Tablet of white marble from the via Salaria, 0,385 m. wide and 0,18 high, with the usual holes at the ends for the nails, of which one is still preserved. The inscription, which is cut in

¹ Le Blant, Comptes-rendus de l'acad. des inscript., 1893, p. 211 and Rev. Arch., xxii, 1893, p. 268.

² Cf. A. J. P., xxx, p. 154 on inscription number seven of this series.

a somewhat vulgar style and clearly belongs to a comparatively early period, runs as follows :

DECVRIONVM · DECRETO
 EX · DOMO · L · TARI · RVF| · AGRYPNO
 MEDICO · MAGISTRO · EX · DOMO
 QVINTAE · MATRIS · AGRYPNVS
 ANN · NATVS · XXVI · OB|T · SEPTVMO
 VICENSVMO · POS|T · MATER
 CALAMITOSA · DE · SVO

This inscription, first published in Notiz. d. Scav., 1900, p. 574, came from a columbarium of one of the *collegia funeraticia* which were organized in many households, and the *decuriones* of the first line, as well as the *magister* of the third, are officials of such an organization. Cf. VI, 26032, ex domo Scriboniae Caesar(is uxoris) libertorum libertar(um) et qui in hoc monument(um) contulerunt.¹ The L. Tarius Rufus of the second line is probably the well-known consul suffectus of 16 B. C. who is called *homo locuples* by Seneca² and is mentioned by the elder Pliny and by Cassius Dio.³ The name Agrypnus is not very common but occurs as the name of slave or freedman in VI, 4032, 29513, 26240 and X, 5346. Quinta *mater* may possibly have been *mater collegi* which is practically the same as *patrona collegi*,⁴ but was probably in any case the mother of L. Tarius Rufus. Compare the use of *maternus* (*servus*) for slaves in the imperial household, as, e. g., in VI, 3935 and 4026. These private *collegia* were of course constituted after the model of the larger industrial *collegia* and had the same honors and official positions. In XI, 1355, for example, we find *patroni*, one of whom is *pater collegi*, *decuriones*, *medici*, and *matres* of the *collegium fabrum tignuariorum* at Luna.⁵ The archaic *posit* for

¹ See collection of material in Waltzing, Etude hist. sur les corpor. profess., III, p. 343.

² De clem., I, 15, 4.

³ Pros. Imp. Rom., III, p. 295.

⁴ Cf. Kornemann, in Pauly-Wiss., IV, 425.

⁵ Cf. De Ruggiero, Diz. Epig., II, p. 378.

posuit is not rare in the earlier inscriptions, being found, for instance, in I, 1282, 1298, 1436; IX, 3121 a, 3146, 3189. *Calamitosus* in the sense of *infelix* is good usage in Cato and Cicero, to say nothing of later writers, and appears in three inscriptions of Rome besides the one here in question, VI, 7908, 9570, 12011.¹

42. Block of travertine, 0.39 m. wide, 0.25 high and 0.10 thick, with the following inscription:

H O C · S O L A R I V M · E S T
 T I · C L A V D I · F L O R I · C V M · S V O
 I T V · A C T V · A D I T V · A M B I T V · A C C
 E S S V · E T · A D · E O S · Q V O S · E A · R E
 S · P E R T I N E T · P E R T I N E B I T

The letters are deeply and carefully cut but their forms, especially the closed loop of P and the vulgar forms of A and L (Λ and K), suggest a date not earlier than the second century. *Solaria* were frequently constructed in connection with tombs² and were sometimes furnished with a roof for shelter.³ The owner in this case cannot be identified, though a Ti. Claudius Florus is mentioned in VI, 15069 and a Claudius Florus in VIII, 9079. The combination of *itus*, *actus*, *aditus*, *ambitus*, *accessus* seems to occur here for the first time in inscriptions. *Itus*, *actus*, *aditus*, *ambitus* are found together in VI, 8667, 10231, 10235, but this use of *accessus* is very rare, being seen in only two other inscriptions, namely in VI, 11027 *aditus*, *ambitus*, *accessus*, and in X, 1571 (Puteoli) *accessus* alone.⁴ The last two lines contain a formula so stereotyped that it could be represented in VI, 10562 by the initial letters, ei a. q. e. r. p. p. r. l., which stand for ei ad quem ea res pertinet pertinebit recte liceto.

43. Slab of white marble, 0.59 m. wide and 0.26 high, which was found in 1891 at Posillipo near Naples. L. Fulvio, who reported the discovery in *Notizie degli Scavi*, 1891, p. 238, described the location thus: si rinvenne una tomba, in opere

¹S. G. Harrod, *Latin Terms of Endearment and of Family Relationship*, Princeton Dissertation, 1909. Dr. Harrod, however, overlooked VI, 12011.

²E. g., C. I. L., VI, 5346, 10223, 10284, 25527; XIV, 3223.

³*Solarium tectum* in VI, 10234.

⁴Olcott, *Thesaur. Ling. Epig.*, s. v.

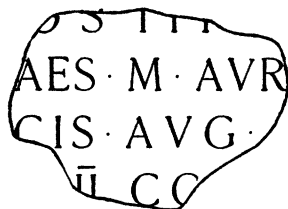
reticulata, di tufo, la quale era coperta da una lastra di marmo, spezzata in due, e mancante nella parte destra. This slab, which is now in Baltimore, has cut upon it the following inscription in rather small letters of the type ordinarily used in the calendars of the early empire:

SATVR · SÓLIS · LÚNÆ · MÁRTIS ·

ROMÆ · CAPVÆ · CÁLATIAE · BENEV

Why Fulvio omitted in his copy the apices on MÁRTIS and CÁLATIAE, it is not easy to understand, because they are perfectly clear on the stone. At all events, his error was taken over into C. I. L., I², p. 218, which therefore needs correction in this particular. The inscription formed a part of one of the *fasti nundinales* with the days of the week in the first line and the names of towns in the second. Another inscription of the same class, which is now in the Naples Museum, may be seen in C. I. L., I², p. 218 and VI, 32505. The round holes, bored entirely through the slab, one over each word, were evidently intended to receive the nails or pins which indicated the time and place of the *nundinae*.¹ The worn surface of the marble around each of the holes marks where the circular head of the nail rested and at the time of the discovery showed also that the nails were of bronze.²

44. Fragment of grey marble, 0,27 m. wide and 0,22 high, which appeared in Rome in the year 1906. It bears the following part of a large imperial inscription in well-formed, deeply cut letters about five centimeters in height:



That we have here a portion of an inscription erected in honor of two emperors, Septimius Severus and Caracalla, is evident at

¹ On the *nundinae*, consult Mommsen, St. R., II³, p. 887 and Daremberg and Saglio, s. v., p. 122.

² Fulvio (l. c.) says "scorgonsi delle macchie circolari di ossido di bronzo".

a glance and the ending of *Felicitis* before AVG indicates that the names were in the genitive case. Since the second acclamation of Caracalla as imperator, indicated at the bottom of our fragment, dates from the year 208 A. D. it is clear that the inscription was cut between that time and the death of Severus in 211. Whether it belongs before or after the accession of Geta cannot be determined. On the assumption that it belongs to the period immediately following Caracalla's second acclamation as *imperator* the missing parts may be restored in some such manner as the following:

Pro salute et incolumitate dd. nn.

Imp. Caes. L. Septimi Severi Pii

Pertinacis Aug. Arab. Adiab. Part. Max.

pont. max. trib. potest. xvi imp. xii

cOS III p. p. procos. et

Imp. cAES · M · AVReli Antonini Pii

F e l i C I S · AVG · tribunic. potest. xi

imp. II COs. iii procos. p. p.

45. Fragment of pavonazzetto from Rome, 0,13 m. wide and 0,23 high, with the following letters cut in a good style of the early empire:



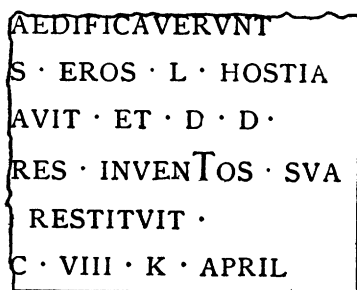
The letters are more than four centimeters in height and the inscription of which they formed a part was doubtless of a public character. The original edge seems to be preserved at the top and there is a margin of eleven centimeters in height above the inscription. The word partly preserved in the second line may be PROCOS and the letter which has left a trace at the bottom of the stone is probably either E or F, though T is not impossible.

46. Fragment of white marble from Rome, 0,17 m. wide and 0,12 high, with the following portion of an imperial inscription. The letters are six centimeters in height and were originally filled with metal, which has now disappeared.



These letters evidently formed part of the titles of an emperor. The first line may be partially restored as *tribunicia POTestate* and the second probably as *fortISSImus* or some other of the superlatives ordinarily used in such a connection.

47. Fragment of white marble, 0,195 m. wide and 0,14 high, roughly broken at the top and on the left side. The text of the inscription, so far as it is preserved, is as follows :



The letters are cut in a vulgar style of a rather late period. Before S at the beginning of the second line and before RES- TITVIT in the fifth line traces of the preceding letters remain but their identity cannot be determined.

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